

VII. Compliance with standard terms and conditions.

All terms and conditions are agreeable to the Yolo Basin Foundation and compliance will not be a problem.

See Attachment 7, Nondiscrimination form.

List of Attachments

Attachment 1	Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area Regional Map
Attachment 2	Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area Habitat Map
Attachment 3	Yolo Basin Foundation Board of Directors
Attachment 4	<i>Yolo Flyway</i> newsletter, Fall 1997
Attachment 5	Project references
Attachment 6	Davis Enterprise "Clinton praises wetlands project."
Attachment 7	Davis Enterprise "Schoolchildren discover the Yolo Bypass flyway."

DISCRIMINATION COMPLIANCE STATEMENT

ITEM 7

ANY NAME

The company named above (hereinafter referred to as "prospective contractor") hereby certifies, unless specifically exempted, compliance with Government Code Section 12990 (a-f) and California Code of Regulations, Title 2, Division 4, Chapter 5 in matters relating to reporting requirements and the development, implementation and maintenance of a Nondiscrimination Program. Prospective contractor agrees not to unlawfully discriminate, harass or allow harassment against any employee or applicant for employment because of sex, race, color, ancestry, religious creed, national origin, disability (including HIV and AIDS), medical condition (cancer), age, marital status, denial of family and medical care leave and denial of pregnancy disability leave.

CERTIFICATION

I, the official named below, hereby swear that I am duly authorized to legally bind the prospective contractor to the above described certification. I am fully aware that this certification, executed on the date and in the county below, is made under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California.

OFFICIAL'S NAME

Robin J. Kulakow

DATE EXECUTED

6-17-98

EXECUTED IN THE COUNTY OF

Yolo

PROSPECTIVE CONTRACTOR'S SIGNATURE

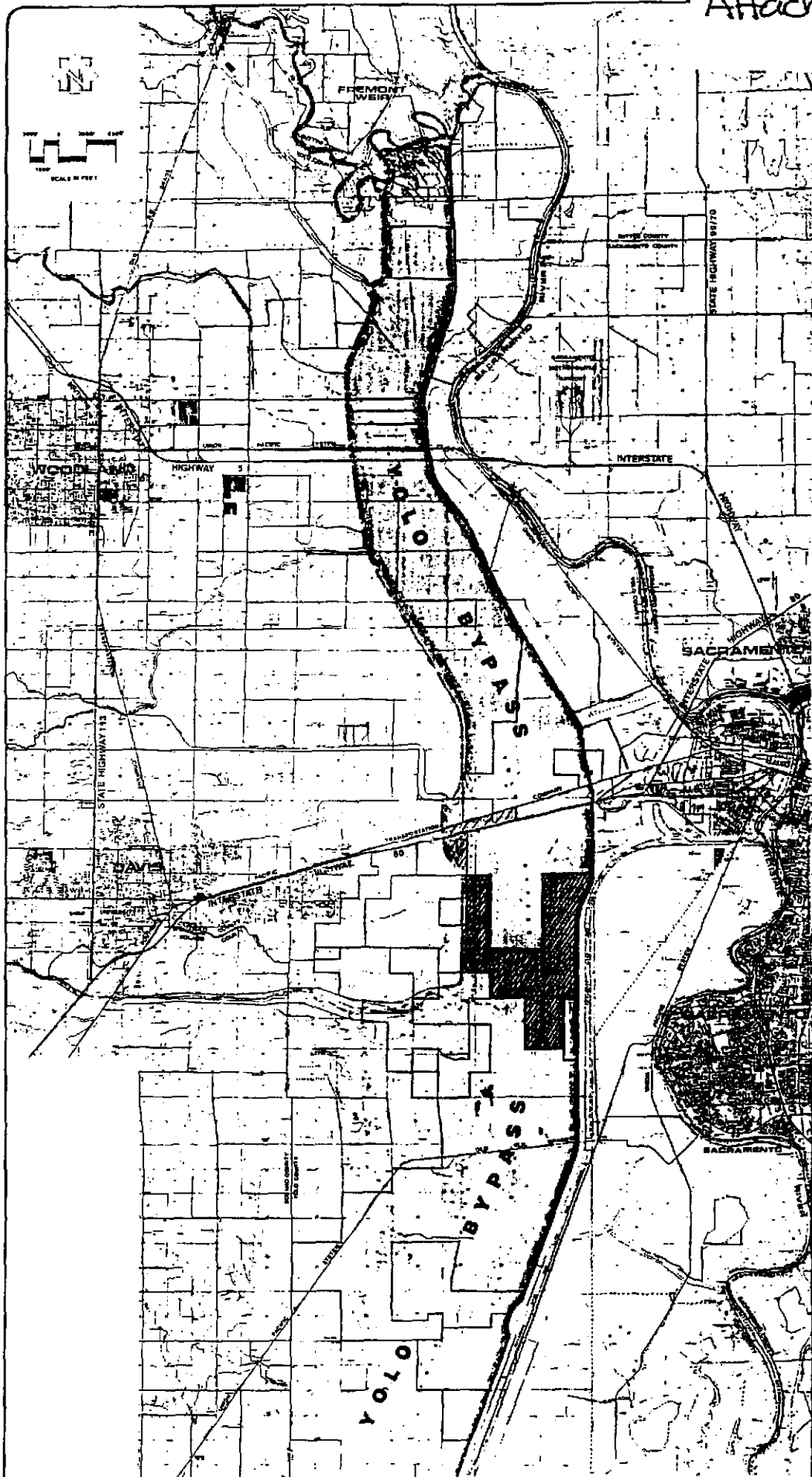
Robin J. Kulakow

PROSPECTIVE CONTRACTOR'S TITLE

Executive Director

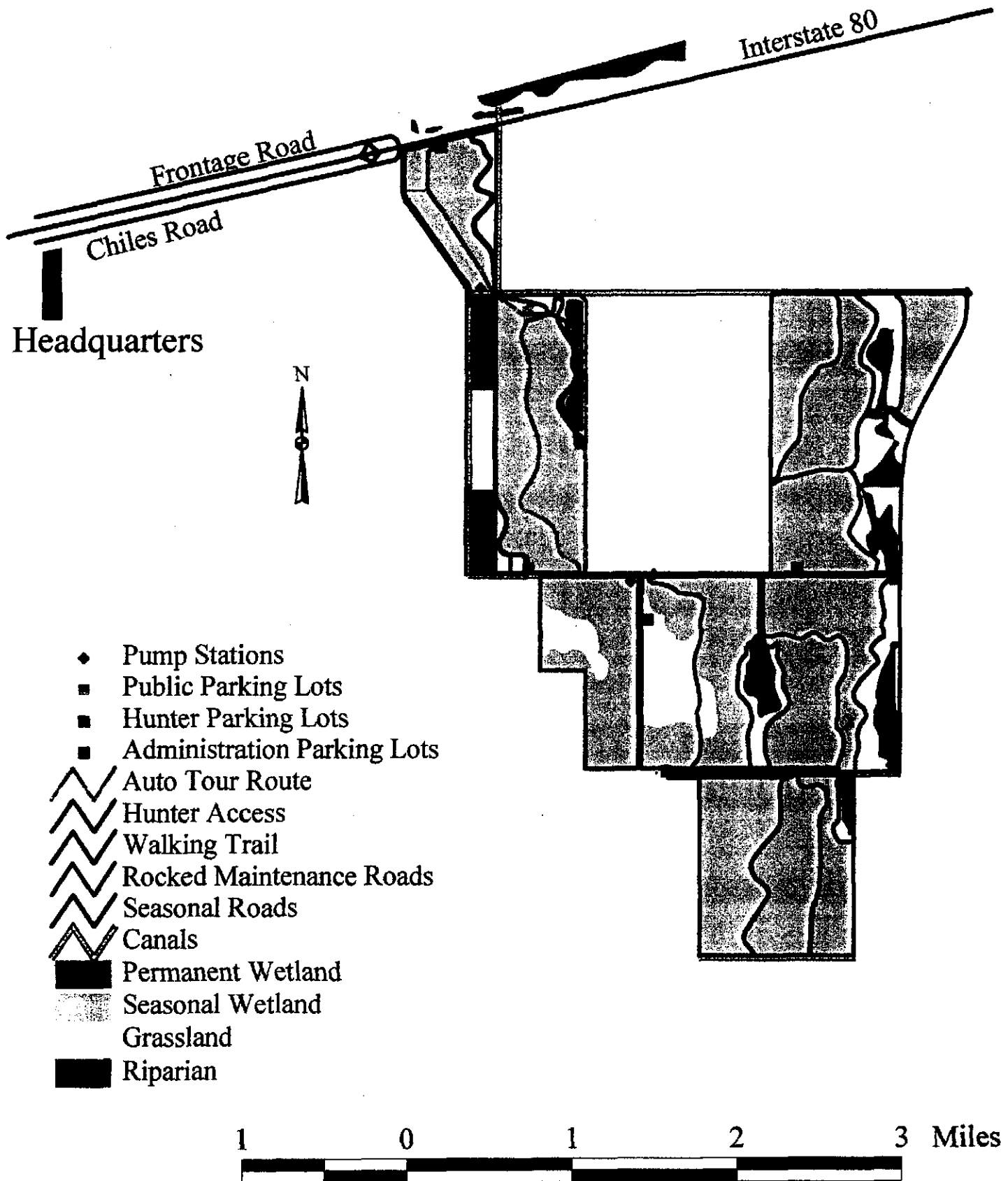
PROSPECTIVE CONTRACTOR'S LEGAL BUSINESS NAME

Yolo Basin Foundation, Inc.



YOLO BASIN WILDLIFE AREA
REGIONAL MAP

YOLO BYPASS WILDLIFE AREA



**Yolo Basin Foundation
Board of Directors, June 1998**

The following is a listing of the board of directors with a brief description of their professional affiliations:

John Anderson	University of California, Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (retired) Yolo Co. Resource Conservation District, associate director Founding member Calif. Native Grass Association Owner, Hedgerow Farms, Farmer actively involved in native habitat restoration and commercial production of native grass seed for restoration.
Manny Carbahal	<i>Chief Financial Officer, YBF Executive Committee</i> Certified Public Accountant, Carbahal & Co. Yolo County Chamber of Commerce Yolo County Fair Board of Directors Budget Committee, Davis Joint Unified School District
Robin Kulakow	<i>Secretary, Executive Director</i> Masters of Administration, UC Davis Putah Creek Council, treasurer Cache Creek Conservancy board of directors
Mike Lien	Walker, Donant and Company (builders & developers) L&D Landfill, L&D Recycling Yolo County Solid Waste Advisory Committee
Betsy Marchand	Yolo County Board of Supervisors (retired) Special Projects Coordinator, Yolo-Solano Flood Control & Water Conservation District Governmental Affairs, Families First
Frank MacBride	<i>YBF Executive Committee</i> President, MacBride Realty Co., Sacramento Landowner, Yolo Bypass duck club Sacramento Rotary Club
Ken Noack Jr.	KVIE Public Television, Board of Directors Rotary club of Sacramento, Board of Directors Sacramento Society for the Blind, Board of Directors Land Broker, Bishop Hawk, Sacramento

David Rosenberg Yolo County Supervisor, District 4
 Attorney-at-Law
 Former Mayor of Davis
 Commission, California Council on Criminal Justice

Susan Sanders Ph.D., Zoology, UC Davis
 Consulting wildlife biologist (freelance)
 Former president, Yolo Audubon Society
 Former co chair, Putah Creek Council

Bob Schneider West Davis Associates (land development)
 Ridge Builders Group, owner
 Sierra Club California, executive committee
 Davis Chamber of Commerce
 UC Davis Chancellors Club
 Rotary Club of Davis

Paul Simmons *President, YBF Executive Committee*
 Attorney at law, De Cuir and Somach, Sacramento
 Sacramento Rotary Club

Meg Stallard *Vice-president, YBF Executive Committee*
 Vice President, Woodland School Board
 League of Women Voters
 UC Davis Alumni Association, Board of Directors
 UC Davis Chancellors Club

Chris Unkel California Nature Conservancy, Director, California
 Wetlands Program
 Central Valley Habitat Joint Venture, Board of Directors

Lois Wolk Mayor , City of Davis(retired)
 Yolo County Board of Supervisors (elected)
 Council liaison for water and wetlands
 Member, Yolo County Water Resources Association
 Davis Chamber of Commerce

YOLO FLYWAY

Volume 6, Issue 3, Winter 1997

A PUBLICATION OF THE YOLO BASIN FOUNDATION

★ SPECIAL PRESIDENTIAL EDITION ★

President Clinton Visits the Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area and Likes What He Sees

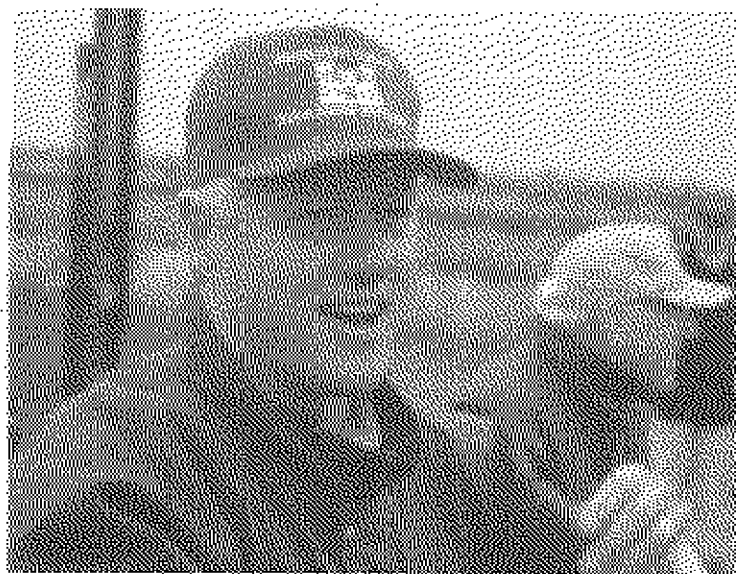
By Susan Sanders

Modest plans for a dedication ceremony to mark the official opening of the Yolo Basin Wildlife Area suddenly blossomed into a mad and joyous scramble when President Clinton announced he would be in attendance at the ceremony. With barely one week's notice, Ducks Unlimited, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the California Department of Fish and Game, and the Yolo Basin Foundation had to radically shift gears to accommodate the extraordinary demands of a presidential visit. After literally thousands of phone calls, many conferences with White House staff and Secret Service, and Herculean efforts by the Corps to make the muddy roads drivable and safe, all was ready for the November 15th ceremony.

The day dawned inauspiciously stormy, but hundreds of undaunted Wildlife Area supporters began arriving hours before the dedication ceremony and worked their



President Clinton tours the Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area with Deputy Secretary of the Interior John Garamendi, Congressman Vito Marcini, Executive Director Robin Kulakow, and Landowner Glen Schmidt. Photo courtesy of Mark Bullard, Ducks Unlimited.



President Clinton greeting Yolo Basin supporters.
Photo courtesy of Tom and Sally Myers.

way through the tight security. Transported by comfortable chartered buses to a most uncomfortable and unsheltered spot in the Wildlife Area, everyone began a long but good-natured wait for the festivities to begin. The only entertainment were flocks of tundra swans and white-fronted geese, who cooperatively displayed themselves overhead to the wet crowd.

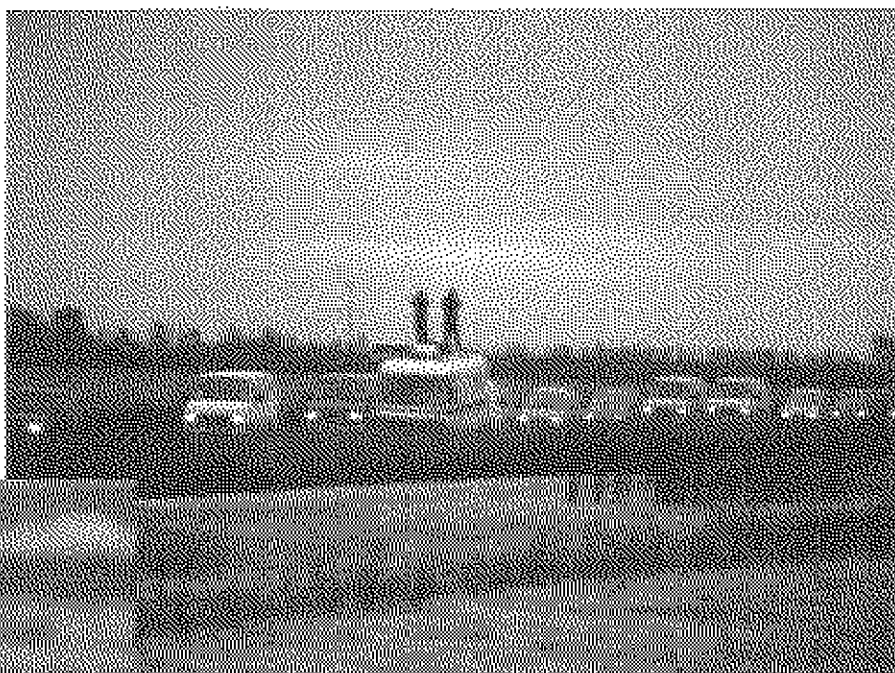
Finally, the astonishing motorcade arrived, a caravan of 27 vehicles on the muddy levee roads. Accompanying the President were Congressman Fazio and Deputy Secretary of the Interior John Garamendi. Some of our own local luminaries led the entourage once it arrived at the Wildlife Area - Yolo Basin Foundation executive director Robin Kulakow and local farmer John Schmidt were there in the lead vehicle along with Wildlife Area Manager, Craig Sowers and Chief Deputy Fred Cole.

Robin and Greg had the opportunity to take the

continued on p. 2

CLINTON *continued from p. 1*

President on a walking tour of the Wildlife Area. The President started off the walk by saying to Robin, "Tell me what you have here." He asked questions about specific bird species, compared the area to the Mississippi Delta and discussed farming programs with Greg. Plenty of ducks welcomed the President as he viewed the area. The press corps was kept at a distance, crowded onto a small turn out in the road. Toward the end of the walk



President Clinton walking at the Exposition. Photo courtesy of Tom and Sally Myers.



Congressman Vic Fazio welcoming the President with the wetlands as a backdrop. Photo courtesy of Tom and Sally Myers.

Congressman Vic Fazio and Deputy Secretary John Garamendi joined the three.

A greeting party including California Resources Secretary Doug Wheeler, Deputy Secretary of Agriculture Richard Rominger, Ducks Unlimited Chairman of the Board John E. Walker, and Yolo Basin Foundation Chairman Paul Simmons welcomed the President. The speeches began with a welcome by John E. Walker. A beaming Congressman Fazio said it all when he said "I've visited this area many times but I've never had as much

fun as the time I brought the President to the Yolo Bypass." Next Sarah Julian, representing the Yolo Basin Foundation, introduced the President with an outstanding speech describing her volunteer work with the Foundation and what the project meant to her.

Clinton's speech was funny, uplifting, and very appropriate. He really understood what the Wildlife Area was all about, acknowledging the exceptional collaboration and effort that made the Wildlife Area happen, and said, "this project is the embodiment of not only what we should be doing as Americans on



Yolo Basin supporters patiently wait for the President's arrival. Photo courtesy of Tom and Sally Myers.

"the edge of a new century, but how we should be doing it." After he spoke, Clinton lingered for almost an hour, mingling with the crowd and warmly shaking everyone's hand.

A crowd of over 800 had waited two to three hours in the painfully cold rain and wind, but there were few complaints. It was not so much the thrill of being able to see and touch The President, but rather what his presence represented. Everyone in the crowd (and many of you reading this newsletter) had made some contribution to shaping the



President Clinton shakes hands with Gary Dettler from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Photos courtesy of Mark Duffield, Davis State College

dream of the Wildlife Area into reality. And here was one of the most powerful people on the planet telling us he thought we had all done a great job, and that everyone else in the country could learn from us. It doesn't get much better than that. For all of you Wildlife Area supporters out there, give yourself a presidential pat on the back. Your hard work has been recognized at the highest level.



Second graders from Dorothy Peterson's class at Pioneer School hold a certificate and star. These students are representing the Vista Basin Foundation's Discover the History of our program. Photos courtesy of Tom and Sally Myers.

SPRING PLANTING ALERT: VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

The Yolo Basin Foundation has just embarked on a new project to plant 10,000 native California trees and shrubs in the Community Site of the Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area. The Causeway Site habitat restoration has been in the works since the inception of the Yolo Basin Wetlands project in 1990. This high profile location is an opportunity for millions of travelers (by car, train, bicycle and foot) to observe native Central Valley wetland habitats while highlighting the successful partnerships that have made large scale habitat restoration possible throughout the region.

The Causeway Site consists of about 400 acres of land north of the I-505 at the Yolo Causeway and south of the Southern Pacific railroad tracks, all owned by California Department of Fish and Game. About 200 acres on the west side of the property are in a 20 year barberry permanent with Caltrans. Fish and Game is currently managing the 200 acres on the west side as wetlands, riparian wetlands, a 10 acre year round pond and small areas of riparian forest. The riparian planting project will establish an additional 25 acres of riparian habitat adjacent to the wetland forest. The planting area is about one mile in length.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers will deliver the 10,000 plants in the Yolo Fish and Game Headquarters on March 20. Currently, the Corps and Fish and Game asked the Yolo Basin Foundation to work with the project by coordinating volunteers to do the planting. Community organizations and individuals interested in volunteering to plant should contact the Foundation at (530) 758-7240 or by e-mail: YBF@yolo.basin.org.

YOLO FLYWAY

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Corps to Fish and Game: "Here, it's yours!"

The original purpose of the Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area dedication event was to mark the transfer of the Yolo Basin Project from the federal sponsor, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps), to the local sponsor, California Department of Fish and Game. This important milestone was celebrated in a brief ceremony at the site of the President's visit just prior to his arrival. The ceremony began with a welcome by

Yolo Basin Foundation Chairman, Paul Simmons under the protection of very weather beaten umbrella. Colonel Dorothy Klase enthusiastically described the importance of the project and the Corps' new role as restorers of wildlife habitat. She then introduced Dr. John Zirschky, Acting Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works, who came all the way from Washington D.C. for the event. In his brief, wind swept words, Dr. Zirschky presented a lovely bronze plaque listing the names of the many Yolo Basin partners. Jack Edwards, Fish and Game Conservation Education, accepted the plaque from Dr. Zirschky. Jack then put on a red Corps baseball hat in the true spirit of partnership. California Waterfowl Association's Bill Gaines, Chairman of the Central Valley Habitat Joint Venture gave the concluding remarks. Bill eloquently spoke of the



Paul Simmons welcoming Wildlife Area supporters, photo courtesy of Tina and Sally Myers

importance of celebrating our accomplishments but that more importantly, we should take this time to recommit ourselves to continue our work on behalf of wetlands and wildlife.

The bronze plaque presented to Fish and Game is now hanging on the front wall of the Fish and Game Headquarters on Chiles Road. The plaque, designed by Miki Fujisube and Robin Kulakow, reads, "Yolo Basin Wetlands: A cooperative project of many agencies, organizations, and individuals." Twenty names of agencies and organizations are listed. Congressman Vic Fazio, former State Assemblyman Tom Hannigan, and retired Yolo County Supervisor Betsy Marchand are listed as well. This plaque will be an important reminder to all of us of the commitments that made the restoration of the Yolo Basin Wetlands a reality.

Waterfowl Visit the Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area and Like What They See.



The Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area officially opened to the public on November 1, 1997.

Hunters showed up before dawn to get an orientation to the new area and a steady stream of bird watchers came throughout the day. The students in Alida Morzenti's Avian Sciences class were treated to the sight of a golden eagle that morning. California Department of Fish and Game staff estimate that on weekends 20-40 cars per day visit for wildlife viewing.

Bird use of the newly flooded ponds is very encouraging and promises to get better and better as the habitat develops. The early

continued next page





WATERFOWL *continued*

arriving waterfowl included about 500 mallards and pintail in early September when the ponds were first flooded. The number and diversity of species steadily rose to 5,000 ducks on November 1. By November 15th, 15,000 ducks were on hand to greet the President. According to Chris Röcco, the Wildlife Area biologist, "it was surprising how early the ducks came through." It is a challenge for the staff to manage such a large water system the first year. According to Bob Mapes the Region 2 manager who oversees the area, "It's going well. It's a learning process."

The waterfowl counts for mid-December are around 20,000 ducks evenly dispersed throughout the Wildlife Area. The dabbling ducks present include mallard, Northern pintail, Northern shoveler, green-winged teal, American widgeon, gadwall and wood duck. By mid-December the diving ducks present were canvasback, redhead, ring-necked, sculp, bufflehead, and ruddy

duck. One December day 800 canvasbacks were counted. So far very few geese have arrived although they are flying overhead in large numbers. The same is true for the Tundra swans. The number of red-tailed hawks, Northern harriers, and kestrels hunting the new wetlands is

impressive. On October 19th, Kevin Guse led a field trip to the Wildlife Area. In three hours the group saw 52 different species of birds including a peregrine falcon.

According to Craig Stowers, Wildlife Area manager, the hunting is surprisingly good given the condition of the habitat and the newness of the place. He also is surprised at how well the birds have responded to the new wetlands. As of mid-December 380 hunters had gone through the area including 25 junior hunters. The bird take was 461 with an average of 1.3 ducks per hunter which is on par with many of the other State Wildlife areas.

For those of us fortunate enough to visit the Wildlife Area regularly, the changes in the habitat are fascinating. It is especially exciting to see the large numbers of ducks show up to a new pond for the first time. For those of us involved in the planting of the area it is reassuring to see the new habitat "working." The whistle of thousands of ducks is constantly present and perhaps that is what is most noticeable. It sounds like a marsh!

Pacific Flyway Center

by Bob Schneider, Pacific Flyway Center Coordinator

The Yolo Basin Foundation recently received a \$5,000 "seed money" grant from Novo Nordisk Biotech, Inc. to support planning of a Pacific Flyway Center. Glenn Nedwin, President of Novo Nordisk Biotech wrote "Your vision for the Pacific Flyway Center to inspire and educate, to instill an imperative to take care of our land, to make wetlands and wildlife meaningful to people's everyday lives—is exciting."

The Pacific Flyway Center Working Group, formed under the auspices of the Yolo Basin Foundation, proposes to build and operate an internationally recognized Center near the Yolo Basin wetlands and Interstate-60. Many members of the group were original members of the Yolo Basin Working Group whose efforts led to the success of the Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area. They have developed a Case Statement, and are working on programming and a feasibility study.

The Foundation has hired Bob Schneider half time to coordinate the Pacific Flyway Center effort. Those interested in the Center can reach Bob at 530-758-4315.



Photo: Sarah Julian officially welcomes President Clinton to the Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area. Photo courtesy of Tom and Sally Myers

"WELCOME MR. PRESIDENT"

As President Clinton visits communities around the country a local young person is often asked to introduce him. The Wings House staff asked for a student who was connected to the Foundation through volunteer work. Sarah Julian, daughter of Bill Julian and step-daughter of Robin Kukulski, was chosen for this honor. Sarah Julian's words of welcome to President Clinton captured the spirit of the day.

"Thank you, Congressman Fazio, Mr Walker and President Clinton, for honoring us by coming to celebrate the Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area."

I have grown up with this project. It has been a constant learning experience for me—to see it grow from an idea discussed at dinner to a dusty construction site, to become this marvelous place for birds and people.

Here we can all learn about the

natural world as it once was, through the experience of walking here, and watching, and listening. School children planting sedges and trees, learning to identify the birds and the grasses will come to respect and appreciate the environment, just as I have.

This wildlife area and its inhabitants will be here forever—for me, for my little brother and sister, my nephew, for my children, and for all the future generations of this community and of this nation. To learn and grow.

I have experienced the effort it has taken. I have licked stamps, fielded phone calls, planted trees, organized slides, sold raffle tickets,

baby-sat at meetings, Xeroxed, collated and folded for almost half my life. And I am amazed that all of us—volunteers, farmers, government agencies, organizations, hunters, environmentalists and students—have come together to create something as wonderful as this public wildlife area.

Mr. President, it gives me hope that great visions can become reality if people work together for a good end. And that is a lesson I will carry with me for the rest of my life.

Mr. President, on behalf of the Yolo Basin Foundation and our entire community, I welcome you to the Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area."



"You can't imagine how much I wanted to get out of cold, wet, rainy, windy Washington, D.C. to come to California." Photo courtesy of Tom and Kelly Myers.

Excerpts from President Clinton's Remarks

"Thank you very much. You can't imagine how much I wanted to get out of cold, wet, rainy, windy Washington, D.C. to come to California. But, after all, this is a wetlands event.

I want to, first of all, thank Sarah for her introduction...listening to her account of the experiences the last several years of her life I think was as good a statement as any as could be made about so many of you who are here and the work you have done to make this day come to pass. I want to thank all of you very much.

I'm very glad to be here with all of you. I want to thank Robin and Greg for showing me around the area and giving me a chance to look at some of the birds and just see what you've done here. I asked them how many ducks and geese there were going to

be here and whether you had any eagles or ospreys or egrets, and I got a pretty good rundown on it.

And I have to say that I have been, as you have heard already, a big supporter of these kinds of endeavors. I thank the people from the California Water Fowl Association, and I do want to say a special word of thanks to two groups with which I have been associated — first, the folks from the Corps of Engineers. They have not only changed their image, they've changed their reality. They're working hard not only to give us water projects, but to give us the kind of environmental conservation that we need for the long run. And I thank you very much, Colonel, and I thank all the people from the Corps for what you've done.

And let me just echo what was said earlier. I'm very proud of my very long association with Ducks Unlimited. They've done a wonderful job in helping us to bring water fowl back to our state and they do a great job in this country.

Finally, I'd like to say a word of appreciation to Vic Fazio, who is clearly one of the most outstanding members of the United States Congress in either party. If we had a hundred more people like him, America would have no problems. ...I want to thank Vic not only for his work here, but for the general efforts he's made, along with Senator Boxer and Senator Feinstein and John Garamendi, for our efforts in the Bay Delta area, and the work that we are doing to try to guarantee the long-term needs of California for water

supply, as well as water quality, habitat preservation and environmental progress. And that's very, very good.

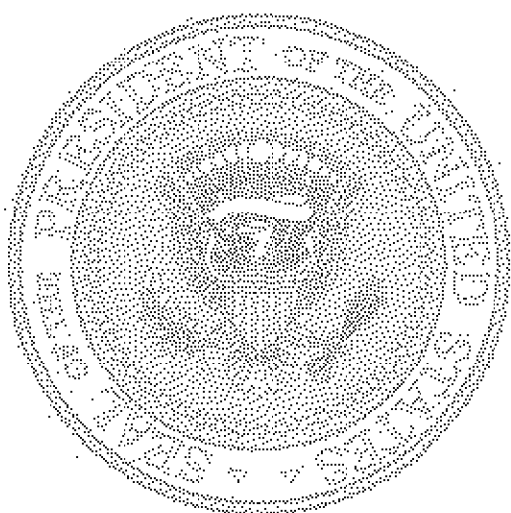
Let me say, I wanted to be here today because to me this project is the embodiment of not only what we should be doing as Americans on the edge of a new century, but how we should be doing it. We worked very hard to create a country where things were working for ordinary Americans, where we were coming together across the lines that divide us and where we can be strong enough to continue to lead the world in the right direction. And that bridge that I talked about all the time I'm trying to build to the 21st century is going pretty well. We've got the strongest economy in a generation, crime and welfare are dropping. And our water quality, our air quality, our food safety, they're all improving. We are moving in the right direction.

One of the biggest challenges we will have to continue to face during the entire lifetime of all the children that are here is the challenge of trying to grow our economy and lift our standard of living while improving, not diminishing our environment. That is critical. A great deal of the history of 20th century California is a story of this battle. And the truth is, for most of the 20th century, not only in California but throughout America, whenever people thought about this they either thought, I'm going to develop the economy, the environment will take care of itself, or they felt for a long time, it's unfortunate that we have to give up so much of our environment, but it's a necessary price we have to pay to continue to raise our living standards.

Now we know that is a false choice. And, indeed, we understand that over the long run if we want to preserve our ability to increase our standard of living we have to preserve our national environment and all the things that go with it.

Just for example, Greg Schmidt and I were talking about this project and how the more you do these projects, the more you're going not only to have what you came here for today, but what you cannot see — you will lose less water in rain runoff, and you will over time rebuild the aquifers that are below the land, that no one sees and most people don't think about. But that will enable you to sustain your population and to sustain your economic activity.

So again I say, I wanted to come here today because this is a huge



success. You're doing the right thing and you're doing it in the right way. And that's the second point I want to make. If we haven't learned anything in our country in the last few years, I hope we have learned we do not get very far when we just stand off and shout at each other and fight and argue all the time. But we can do anything if roll up our sleeves and get down to work and honestly listen to people who have different experiences, different perspectives, and different genuine interests. That's what you've done here. You've been able to bring everybody together, and I really feel good about that.

Here we are in the shadow of Sacramento. We see the farmlands here, and I promise you, when I crossed that levee today, I thought I was back home in eastern Arkansas,

and I kept waiting for somebody to give me my waders and a gun to go duck hunting.

What you have done today was based on the cooperation of state, federal, and local governments. That's how we ought to be dealing with all America's problems. You can't name a single problem we've got in this country that we could not make the kind of progress on we're celebrating today, if we didn't approach it the way you have approached this.

And I would implore you to think about what you can do and what you can say to people in this state, and your friends and family members and neighbors all around America, to take this attitude and this approach, not only to our environmental problems, but to all others.

You've been working on this since the late '80s. You ought to be very proud of it. But you ought to also draw confidence from this that there is no challenge facing this country that we cannot meet if we will just do what you have done here.

I am so proud of you — I know that you believe in it or you wouldn't be standing out here in the cold and rain listening to me talk.

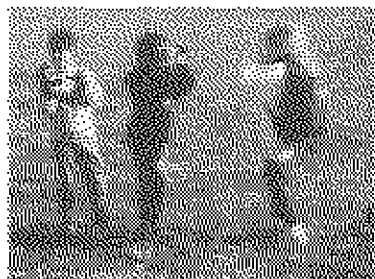
We're working hard across America on projects like this. We're making progress in reclaiming Florida Everglades, in restoring Lake Tahoe, in saving Yellowstone. We have funds in this latest bill, in our balanced budget plan, to continue this work. But I now can go around the country and talk to other people about what you've done here and tell them you believe in it so much you all showed up and stayed in the wind and the rain in sunny California.

Well, I've seen the wetlands here today, and some of you may have seen more than you wanted to see. But I'll tell you what else I've seen — I've seen a glimpse of America's future, and I like it. Thank you, and God bless you."

Discover the Flyway Update

by Liz Merry, Program Coordinator

Since mid-October the Yolo Basin Foundation and California Department of Fish and Game have been proud to host over 600 elementary school students through the *Discover the Flyway* program for schools. One of the first things you noticed is that the students who visit the Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area on a classroom field trip don't always follow along with the learning activities the teacher has planned. Some of the younger



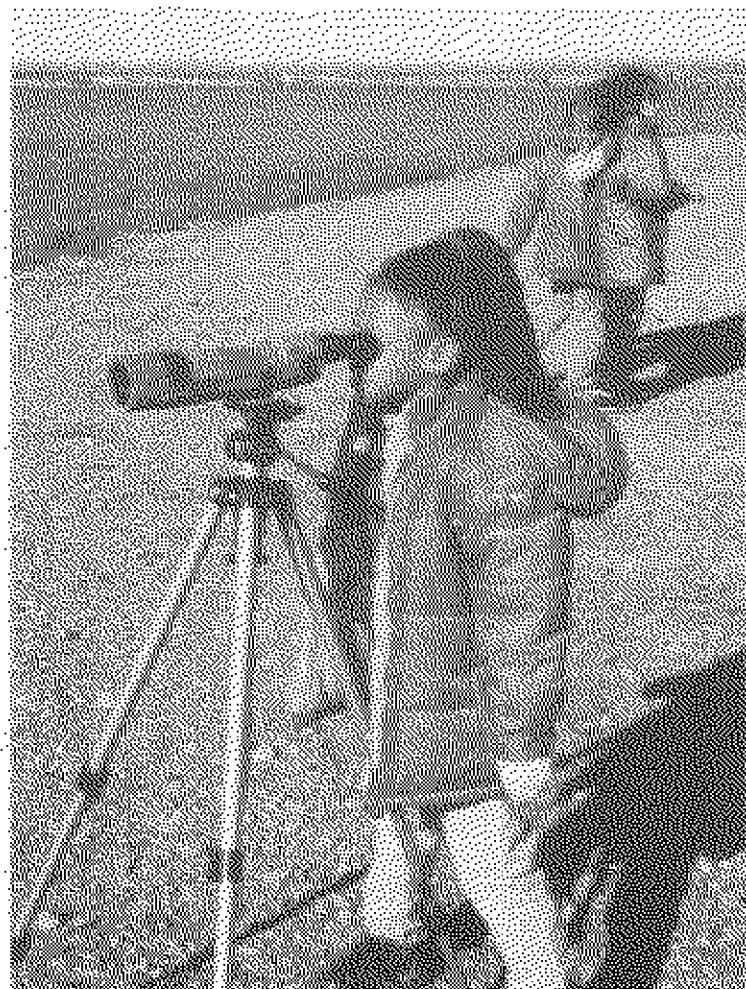
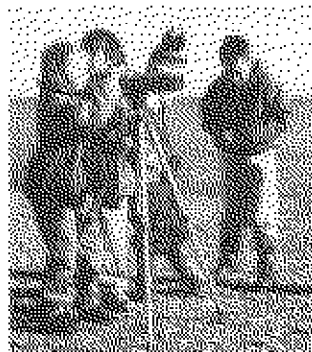
students, in second or third grade, don't necessarily have to look through the binoculars from the right direction to enjoy observing the birds. In fact, the children don't seem to need much direction at

all about how to enjoy and appreciate the wetlands. Who even needs birds? The bugs are great and you can pick them up too.

Each new field trip provides a lesson that improves the program. Little details, like not having the children wear binoculars as they plant sedges in the mud, or letting the students use the spotting scope unattended, only to find that some enjoy looking directly at the sun. These are the experiential lessons we incorporate into each new field trip.

Other projects in the *Discover the Flyway* program include a group of volunteers called *Wildlife Observers* who are regularly touring the auto tour route in the wetlands to observe the waterfowl, plant life, and human activity taking place. These dedicated volunteers have committed their energies to recording their observations, and describing the general state of things in the Wildlife Area. This information is then passed on to teachers to assist them in planning their trip. The volunteers include: Norm Morris, Karen Gethart, Rick Heredia, Kristen Kolb, Dick Stanton, Penny Gordon, Gary Weaver, Laurie Wedra. The Observers are providing an important service to the teacher's in the *Discover the Flyway* program and to the Foundation. We thank them for their hard work.

Finally, we have organized several supplementary training sessions for the volunteers, teachers and parents involved in field trips to the Wildlife Area. These evening training



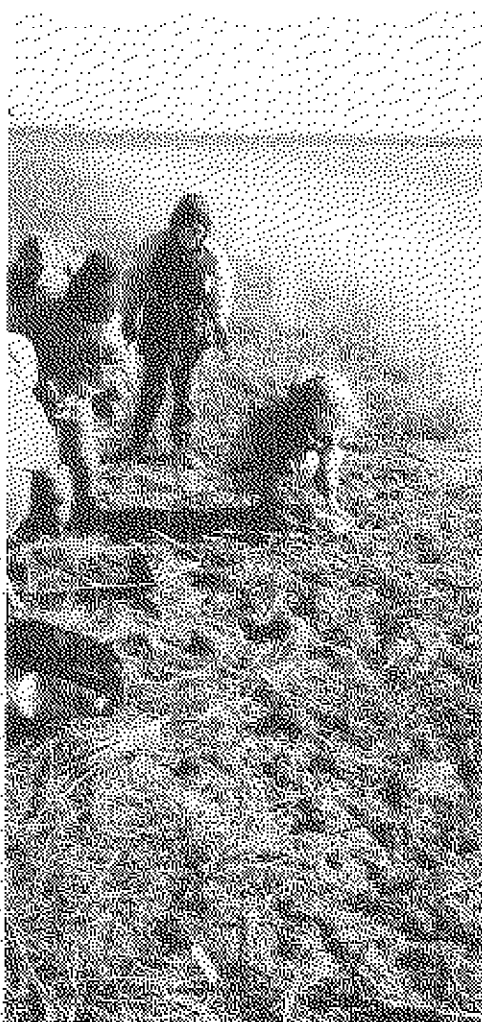
Students from Lincoln Elementary School in Sacramento planting sedges and exploring the wetlands.

sessions include a one-hour orientation to the Wildlife Area and a second hour of specialty training. During the second hour on November 19th, Woody Schoen from the Sacramento Mosquito Vector Control Agency came to discuss waterfowl identification. Along with a fabulous slide show of the waterfowl Woody enjoys near the Mosquito Fish Hatchery in Elk Grove, we were treated to waterfowl calls and stories about the long-time feathery residents who inhabit the 40 acre pond site. Woody is also an active volunteer at the Stone Lakes Refuge and will be leading a field trip for California Duck Days in February. Don't miss his trip. He's a great interpreter!

On December 19th, the final training session of 1997 took place when Michelle Stevens from UC Davis presented "Edinobotany: Wetland Plants and Ecology". Ms. Stevens' presentation was very informative and the audience truly appreciated her skill at explaining and clarifying the names of various sedges, tules, and cattails. In addition, Ms. Stevens is actively involved in Native



American basketry and cultural awareness, and is therefore able to explain the various perceptions of plants from an academic, regulatory agency, and Native American perspective. Ms. Stevens' ability to translate information between different cultures is a rare talent. Foundation members are encouraged to attend her workshop at California Duck Days. Teachers interested in attending future *Discover the Thyway* workshops should call me at (530)758-1018 or e-mail me at flywayb@den.davis.ca.us.



YOLO BASIN FOUNDATION FIELD TRIPS

February 21, Tour of Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area; Leader: Mary Schmidt; 9 a.m. - noon; Meet at the west levee gate at the end of Chiles Road east of Davis.

March 14, Tour of Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area; Leader: John Kump; 9 a.m. - noon; Meet at the west levee gate at the end of Chiles Road east of Davis.

March 21, Nature and Culture Tour of the Putah Creek Headwaters; Leaders: Bob Thayer and David Robertson; All day trip; 8 a.m. - 6 p.m.; Meet at Veterans Memorial Center Parking Lot, 205 East 14th, Davis; You may also meet at the Wildlife Community Center parking lot at 8:45 a.m. to join the caravan.

April 4, Tour of Lower Cache Creek; Leaders: Ann Price & Steve Chaffey; 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.; Meet at the Riley's Superstore parking lot in the West Gate Center, 367 W. Main St. in Woodland.

April 19, Tour of Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area; 9 a.m. - noon

April 25, City of Davis Wetlands Site; Leader: Mike Cichok; 8:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.; Meet at City of Davis Water Pollution Control Plant, Road 284 & 107

May 2, Upper Cache Creek and Rayhouse Road; Leader: John Kump; 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.; Meet at the Riley's Superstore parking lot in the West Gate Center, 367 W. Main St. in Woodland.

May 17, Tour of Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area; Leader: Sid England; 9 a.m. - noon

June 6, Saturday Conaway Ranch Bird Banding Project; Leader: Mike Hall; 9 a.m. - noon; Meet at Conaway Ranch Headquarters parking lot at the very west end of Conroy Road 25.

August 1 Conaway Ranch Bird Banding Project; Mike Hall; 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

A complete schedule with more details on the trip and conditions can be mailed to you. Call (530)758-1018 and leave your name and address. You may also reach us by email at flywayb@den.davis.ca.us.

YOLO BASIN FOUNDATION PROJECT SPONSORS

CALIFORNIA DUCK DAYS 1998

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Work Begins on Demonstration Wetland

Thanks to rice farmer Allen Garcia construction is underway for a two-acre demonstration wetland located adjacent to the new Yolo Bypass State Wildlife Area Headquarters on Chiles Road east of Davis. In early November Mr. Garcia began the earthwork, or earth sculpting as he calls it, to create the new two acre pond. This exciting new Yolo Basin Foundation project in partnership with the State Department of Fish and Game is funded through

Flyway program for schools. It is another example of a successful Yolo Basin partnership providing habitat and educational resources for the community. Look for upcoming announcements recruiting volunteers for planting days next spring.

Allen Garcia with Living Farms Center for Sustainable Agriculture, farms organic rice at Cosumnes Preserve south of Sacramento. Mr. Garcia is well known for his skill in recreating wetland habitats on



Allen Garcia discussing pond design and construction with Mike Fujisubo in the background.

grants from California Waterfowl Association, Central Valley Habitat Joint Venture, U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

The demonstration wetland will be modeled after the larger ponds in the Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area and will serve as an easily accessible outdoor classroom for students of all ages. There will be observation areas and a trail accessing the pond for closer study. All vegetation will be native plants typical of Central Valley wetlands and riparian areas, providing an excellent opportunity for students to become familiar with native plants at a convenient study site. This project will be an integral part of the Yolo Basin Foundation's Discover the

existing farmland and demonstrating wildlife friendly farming practices. The Foundation is fortunate to have the services of Mr. Garcia.

Mike Fujisubo, landscape architect with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, prepared the site plans and is working on the irrigation design. Andy Halo and Bob Smith with Larry Walker Associates, consulting engineers, provided the pre-design site survey. Grading and installation of water control structures will be completed by Allen Garcia and California Department of Fish and Game Wildlife Area personnel this winter as ground conditions permit. Native grass plugs for a perennial grassland surrounding the pond will be provided by Hedgerow Farms.

Thank you to the 1997 Bucks for Ducks Sponsors:

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Woodland Biomass

BUCKS FOR DUCKS: SEVEN YEARS OLD AND GOING STRONG

The Yolo Basin Foundation would like to thank John Whitcombe, Paul Makley and Bill Roe of Tandem Properties for hosting the seventh annual "Bucks for Ducks" fund-raising reception. The picturesque setting next to the Northstar pond, created by Tandem Properties, was certainly an appropriate place for wildlife supporters to enjoy the evening. As the evening progressed, the many geese, ducks and egrets that circled over before settling into the pond seemed to be co-sponsors of the event and certainly reminded those present of the importance of their efforts.

The proceeds from Bucks for Ducks support the Foundation's activities throughout the year including the new *Discover the Flyway* program for schools and other activities on behalf of the Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area. Thank you to our over 50 sponsors and over 150 people attending the event.

Special thanks to the following donors of event supplies or in-kind services: Maggie Ferrari, Looking Glass Framing Gallery, Mustard Seed, and V. Santoni, Strelitzia Flower

Company, Valley Wine, Judy Whitcombe, and Judy Yost.

Also thank you to the following donors of raffle items: The Artery, Avid Reader, Cornflower Farms, Hal & Rosie Cushing, Davis Food Co-op, Discoveries, Giselles Travel, Home Plus, John Lescroart, The Naturalist, The Paint Chip and Super Salad.

Thank you to California Waterfowl Association, State Department of Fish and Game, Sandra Durrin and Tom & Meg Stallard for donations of art work and other items to the silent auction. Thank you to also to the following artists for donations of their work: Harry Adamson, Carol Brandt, Adele Farnshaw, Keith Hansen, Thomas Quint, Vicki Hipsley, Dave Sellers, Robert Solari, Sherrie Russell Melino, and Judy Whitcombe.

Thank you to our hardworking volunteers: Mickey Barlow, Barbara Neinsch, Joan Humphrey, Bill Julian, Liz Merry, Tandy Maxwell, Bob, Logan & Charlie Schneider, Natasha Roemer, Mary Schiedt, Iris Tenenbaum. We thank our many community supporters for making the event a great success for the seventh year in a row.

California Duck Days

*"At last, an event
that's all it's
quacked up to be!"*

Join the thousands of wildlife
enthusiasts headed for the
Veterans Memorial Center
in Davis, February 7 and 8th at
California Duck Days 1998.

The largest wetlands festival in America,
California Duck Days gathers top
educators, hunters and lovers of the great
outdoors for two days of workshops, field
trips and fun for the whole family.

Lively workshops and demonstrations will
please sportsmen and women, artists,
backyard naturalists and kids. Activities
include decoy carving, fly casting,
waterfowl identification, duck calling, and
arts and crafts displays. Best of all, you
can watch thousands of geese, cranes,
ducks, and shorebirds traveling the Pacific
Flyway.

Registration is \$4 per day for adults, or
just \$12 for a field trip pass. Children 14
and under are admitted free. Volunteer
opportunities are available. To find out
more about California Duck Days '98 and
get a free schedule of events, please call
758-1206 or 800-423-5800.

California Duck Days turns Five Years Old!

by Liz Merry, Duck Days Coordinator

California Duck Days will
celebrate its fifth anniversary
on February 7th and 8th,
1998. For California wildlife festivals,
that's no small accomplishment. The
festival includes an impressive array
of workshops, field trips,
demonstrations, and a large
Exhibition Hall full of educational
displays and vendors. For the first
time, the California Waterfowl
Association (CWA) will co-host the
festival with Yolo Basin Foundation
by combining their annual
Exposition into the wetlands
weekend in Davis.

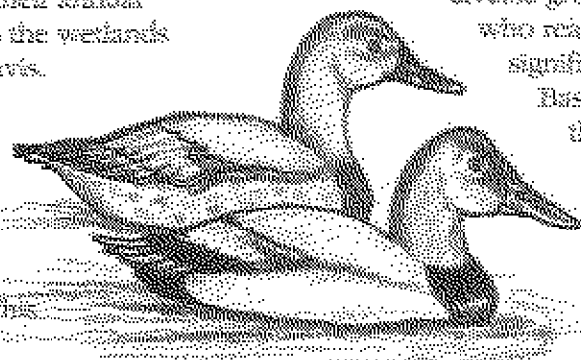
CWA's
participation
adds a whole
new level of
content and
volunteer
commitment. This
year the Wood
Duck Symposium
will also be taking place at UC Davis
during the festival.

Each year since its inception, the
planners of Duck Days have noticed
more and more wildlife festivals
springing up in California. In
November, 1996, we met with festival
coordinators from throughout
California at the National Watchable-
Wildlife conference. During those
discussions it became clear there are a
few key ingredients that make
California Duck Days a cherished
event for everyone involved.

First, this festival is run by and for
people passionate about wetlands
and wildlife. The mission of the
festival is to "educate and inspire,"
and the volunteers who lend their
knowledge and skills to the festival
pass on their own inspiration to the
participants.

Second, the mixture of talent,
knowledge, and interest in the Davis
area seems unsurpassed. At UC Davis,
professors, graduate students,
administrators, undergraduates and
alumni understand the importance of
translating knowledge into action in
order to support wildlife and habitat.
The California Duck Days experience
could not be equaled without the
energies and creativity lent by the
folks at UC Davis.

Third, the festival began as a
vision of Bob Schneider's and a
diverse group of people
who realized the
significance of the Yolo
Basin wetlands to
the Pacific Flyway.
In order to
celebrate the
wetlands and
provide a fun,
educational
event to the
public, they



organized under the auspices of the
Yolo Environmental Resource Center,
with Elaine Hebert at the helm as
Coordinator and Bob Barnes lending
his support and experience from
many other wildlife festivals. The first
Duck Days was held only five months
after the first "Steering Committee"
decided the event would take place.
In 1995 Duck Days became a project
of the Yolo Basin Foundation.

Today we begin planning the
festival almost the day after it ends.
The energy created from the event
last February was tangible with each
Steering Committee excited about
making it even better in 1998. I'm
extremely proud to let you know,
they've done it. The festival will be an
amazing, diverse, content-deep and
activity-rich weekend full of fun. It's
going to be the best California Duck
Days yet! We'll see you there.

EAGLES

by John Kamper

When we think of Yolo County, we generally don't think of eagles, but we should. We've got both kinds of eagles here, and seem to be getting more of them.

The classic eagle, of course, is the Bald Eagle, our national emblem. Almost everyone recognizes an adult Bald Eagle, with its white head and tail. Recognizing an *immature* Bald Eagle, however, is not so easy, and we'll talk about that later.

Bald Eagles have been on the increase everywhere, including in Yolo County. There is a significant winter population in Cache Creek Canyon, and birds from there regularly drift downstream as far as Ramsey and Guinda. In November, 1997, one was even spotted in the Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area, and we can probably count on seeing them there more often, as the duck population increases.

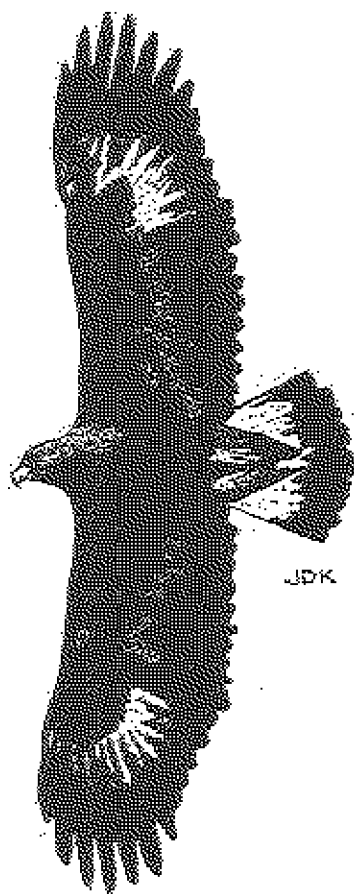
The wildlife programs on TV tell us that Bald Eagles are principally consumers of fish, and so they are, provided there are fish around for them to get. But when fish aren't readily available, they live on geese, ducks, and coots, and to some extent on small mammals. Do they occasionally prey on lambs, as charged by many ranchers? Some observers claim they have seen them do that, although in many cases the eagles probably picked up the lambs after they were already dead.

Bald Eagles are capable of taking ducks on the wing, and frequently do so. However, another technique they use is to harass a duck on the water. The duck dives each time it is attacked, but the eagle pursues it and attacks each time it surfaces until the duck is exhausted.

If the duck can get airborne, it generally has a better chance of

escaping, but some ducks require a long and clumsy takeoff before they can get aloft. Occasionally, such clumsy fliers have escaped by surfacing directly under the eagle's tail, and taking off before the eagle can turn around.

Our other eagle is the Golden Eagle. Usually these are birds of the foothills and mountains, but again, one was recently spotted in the Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area. Golden Eagles mostly prey on small mammals, but



have been known to attack animals as large as antelopes, deer, lambs, dogs, cats, young pigs, and foxes.

Do they also carry off human babies? The answer appears to be no, although that is not to say they wouldn't do so if given the opportunity. There is at least one case, apparently authentic, of a Golden Eagle attacking a nine-year-old girl, although the attacker was beaten off. A factor that works against such attacks is the limit of how much

an eagle can lift off the ground. In one experiment, an eagle weighing 41 pounds could not lift a weight of 5 1/2 pounds. But in another case, an observer saw an eagle carry off a 7-pound jackrabbit.

What about this business of identifying immature eagles? Well, that's one of the tougher problems for birders, because immature Bald Eagles and immature Golden Eagles can look much alike. It takes 4 to 5 years to gain adult plumage, for both kinds of eagles. As immatures, they are generally brown with blotchy white areas. The location of these white areas provides one of the keys to identification.

If the eagle shows white areas at the base of the primaries (the major flight feathers), it's a Golden Eagle, because Bald Eagles don't do that. (See accompanying illustration.) If it shows white in the "arm-pits" (called the *axillaries*), it's a Bald Eagle, because Golden Eagles don't do that. But immature eagles can get very creative about how much white they're going to show in these areas, so it's not always quite so easy.

Another place to look is at the white areas of the tail. In both species, there will probably be some white at the base of the tail when they're young. If the white area is sharply delineated from the black at the end of the tail, that's a sign it's probably a Golden Eagle. The white on Bald Eagles tends to be more diffuse.

Another key is how much the eagle's head projects in front of the wing, when the bird is soaring. If the head projection is less than half the tail length, then it's a Golden Eagle. If it's more than half the tail length, it's a Bald Eagle.

Easy, isn't it? Just wait until you get one with intermediate characteristics, and also find yourself unable to decide whether the head sticks out more than, or less than, a half-tail length. You might have to put it down as "Eagle, unidentified."

CITY OF DAVIS WETLANDS UPDATE

by Mike Corner, Wildlife Resource Specialist, City of Davis,
Public Works Dept.

The earthwork for the City's wetlands has been completed. The final inspection for acceptance from the contractor is scheduled for the end of December. Presently, the city is filling the site with reclaimed water at a rate of five million gallons per day and four of the seven permanent areas are inundated. Although the wetland is mostly devoid of vegetation, some waterfowl including tundra swans have begun using the site. The planting contract will begin January 1, 1998. The City and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers are pleased to announce that Sierra View Landscape Inc. was awarded that contract. Sierra View has a great track record with their work for the City's Woodbridge Park project and

the California Department of Fish & Game's Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area. During the next year the City Wetlands will be planted with over 6,000 trees and shrubs, and the entire 400 acres will be seeded with native grasses and forbs. Emergent aquatic species such as bulrush and spike rush will be plug planted. During the fall of 1998 volunteers will be supplied with native grass seeds, soil and containers to grow plugs that will be planted into the city wetlands in December. If you are interested then please leave your name and address with Mike Corner at (530) 757-5686 x7531. Public access to the area should begin sometime in 1998.

Visit the new Yolo Basin Foundation website at www.yolobasin.org. There you will find information on Yolo Basin Foundation programs including a detailed field trip schedule. Thank you to Iris Impechman and Lois Fisher for many hours of volunteer time getting this site up and running.

JOIN THE YOLO BASIN FOUNDATION

I would like to become a friend of the Yolo Basin Foundation. Enclosed is a donation of:

☐ \$25 ☐ \$35 ☐ \$50 ☐ \$100 ☐ other

Please make checks payable to Yolo Basin Foundation and mail to P.O. Box 943, Davis, CA 95617. Donations of \$25 or more will receive a complimentary set of Western Waterfowl Identification cards. Donations are tax deductible. Thank you for your support.

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"You ought to be very proud of (this project) and also draw confidence from this that there is no challenge facing this country today that we cannot face."

— President Clinton

Clinton praises wetlands project



Mark Bullard/The Enterprise

Above, President Clinton lifts his binoculars to view the wildlife during a tour of the Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area on Saturday morning. Joining Clinton on the walking tour are, from left, Deputy Interior Secretary

John Garamendi, who once represented Davis in the state Senate, farmer Greg Schmid, who used to raise crops on the acreage now restored as wetlands, Rep. Vic Fazio, D-West Sacramento, and Robin Kulakow of

the Yolo Basin Foundation. At top, Clinton greets some of the invited guests who braved wind and rain — and who waited for hours in the cold and mud — to attend the dedication ceremony.

◆ Rain can't dampen spirits as president acknowledges this public-private venture

■ More stories, photos on Page A-8

By MELANIE TURNER
Enterprise staff writer

Robin Kulakow of Davis never imagined she would walk alongside the president of the United States through the wet-

lands she holds so dear to her heart.

But under dark skies and drizzle, and tramping through the mud, Kulakow, executive director of the Yolo Basin Foundation, pointed out various bird species to President Clinton on Saturday.

Clinton, who came to Davis to formally dedicate the 3,700-acre wildlife area, called it a model for dealing with many of the nation's problems. The delicate agreement meshing endangered species and flood control interests may set precedent

for future projects.

The public-private project shows that wildlife, flood control and agriculture can co-exist in a largely urban setting.

Clinton said the project is the "embodiment of not only what we should be doing as Americans on the edge of the 21st Century, but how we should be doing it."

Clinton added that those who made it happen should be proud.

"You ought to be very proud of it and also draw confidence from this that there

is no challenge facing this country today that we cannot face," he said while addressing the 1,000 people who attended the wetlands dedication.

Clinton arrived via motorcade after Air Force One touched down at McClellan Air Force Base. The president's 28-car motorcade drove along a levee road to the wetlands, located in a flood control channel south of Interstate 80 and east of Davis.

See CLINTON, Page A-9

CLINTON

Continued from Page A-1

Attendance at the event was by invitation only. Attendees included local elected officials, and family and friends of the organizations that helped turn the eight-year project into a reality.

They left cold and wet, but uplifted. "I'm still coming to grips with the fact that this truly is a national resource. Right here in Yolo County," said Dave Rosenberg of Davis, chairman of the Yolo County Board of Supervisors.

Commonly referred to as the Putah Sinks, the area serves as a rest stop along the Pacific Flyway, a route used annually by thousands of migratory birds. Some of the land is reserved for hunting, hiking and wildlife watching, while other areas are sealed off as a wildlife sanctuary.

On Saturday, Clinton donned a red U.S. Army Corps of Engineers cap, a blue-green windbreaker and khakis. He stood atop a podium in the rain with a grassy pond as a backdrop, recognizing the cooperative efforts of public and private partnerships.

The result — the Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area — is now the largest wetlands restoration project east of the Florida Everglades.

Clinton said the land reminded him of his home state.

"When I crossed that levee today, I thought I was back home in Eastern Arkansas, and I kept waiting for someone to get me my waders and a gun to go duck hunting."

Clinton said one of the biggest challenges the nation will have to face is how to increase our economy while improving, not diminishing our environment. Whereas once people thought the environment would "take care of itself," or thought, "It's a necessary price we'll have to pay," now we know better, he said.

Many observers of the long process agree that without the tireless work of Kulakow, 40, and the Yolo Basin Foundation, the project would have washed away long ago.

A group of people from Yolo Audubon Society and Putah Creek Council, including Ted Beedy and Steve Chainey, first conceived of the idea in 1989 for re-creating a wetlands habitat.

The Yolo Basin Foundation is a non-profit corporation dedicated to educating people about wetlands and wildlife. It formed that same year to promote the establishment of the wildlife area.

Around 1900, the area was developed into a facility for diverting Sacramento River floodwaters away from the city and into the Delta.

Kulakow picked up the project after

"(Rep. Vic Fazio) has been truly the major supporter and sponsor of this effort. No matter what obstacle was thrown up against it, he managed to negotiate a solution through consensus and compromise. And it's quite a legacy for him, I believe. And for all of us."

— Davis Mayor Lois Wolk

some initial discussions and invited more people to join in their vision. Eventually, she quit her job as a soils scientist with the state to be a full-time volunteer on the project.

Later, volunteers managed to convince the state and federal government of the project's value. The wetlands restoration project ultimately was created with state, federal and private support. The federal government contributed \$12 million of the \$17 million cost, with the state contributing the balance.

After years of negotiations between the Army Corps of Engineers, private organizations, the Central Valley Habitat Joint Venture Coalition, the state Reclamation Board, Department of Water Resources, state Department of Fish and Game and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, an agreement was reached to balance the needs of floodplain managers and environmentalists.

The Yolo Basin Foundation helped to negotiate an agreement among all the agencies that addressed their concerns about endangered species and management of vegetation and recognized the first function of the bypass as flood control.

Many on Saturday, including Clinton, thanked Rep. Vic Fazio, D-West Sacramento, for his constant support of this and other environmental efforts. Fazio worked to secure federal funds for the project.

"Vic has been truly the major supporter and sponsor of this effort," Davis Mayor Lois Wolk said afterwards. "No matter what obstacle was thrown up against it, he managed to negotiate a solution through consensus and compromise. And it's quite a legacy for him, I believe. And for all of us."

Fazio has spoken many times before the people of Yolo County about wetlands issues. But he said he's never had a better time doing it than he did on Saturday.

"I don't think I've ever had more fun than the day I brought along the president of the United States," Fazio told the crowd.

The permanent ponds in the bypass already are attracting more waterfowl than ever before. Almost 10,000 ducks showed up one recent morning in one small area of the wetlands that wasn't flooded last year.

Less than 5 percent of California's historical wetlands remain today, Fazio said.

The wetlands project mimics seasonal flooding, explained Bill Gaines, director of government affairs and chairman of the Central Valley Habitat Joint Venture.

"In essence, you're farming for ducks," Gaines said. "You build it and they will come."

Ten years ago, waterfowl populations had dropped to about 50 million birds on the North American continent. Already, because of similar efforts inspired by the North American Waterfowl Management Plan signed by the United States and Canada, and with some help from mother nature, those numbers are up to from 90 to 100 million birds of various species, Gaines said.

Ground work on the Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area project began two years ago. For starters, an eight-acre riparian forest was planted. It's now thriving. Some trees are as tall as seven feet. Earth in the bypass has been sculpted into large, shallow ponds.

Contractors under the supervision of Ducks Unlimited did the earth-moving work to create the thousands of acres of seasonal and permanent ponds that make up the wildlife area. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and Ducks Unlimited also contributed to the project's construction.

Oversight of the area was transferred Saturday to Fish and Game.

Clinton said efforts like the Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area will actually help the state conserve water by, as one example, using less water runoff in the future.

"You're doing the right thing and you're doing it in the right way," he told the audience.

"...I've seen a glimpse of America's future and I like it."

In search of ...



From left, Karleigh Rose, Helen Yasko and Monica Ordoñez use their binoculars to get a closer look at birds in the Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area during a field trip to the site east of Davis Wednesday morning. The girls are students in Dorothy Petersen's second-grade class at Pioneer Elementary School. Their visit was one of the first offered through the Yolo Basin Foundation's new Discover the Flyway educational program. For details, see story on Page A-2.

ond-grade class at Pioneer Elementary School. Their visit was one of the first offered through the Yolo Basin Foundation's new Discover the Flyway educational program. For details, see story on Page A-2.

Sue Cockrell/The Enterprise

Schoolchildren discover the Yolo Bypass flyway

"I found a bug!" was one of the most common exclamations from Belinda Kesser's second-grade class as they initiated the Discover the Flyway program in the Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area for the first time last Friday.

The children searched wetland water for protozoan creatures, explored the difference between natural and non-natural items, and were thrilled by the presence of blue herons, great egrets and many flocks of ducks flying into the Wildlife Area for their winter layover.

The Discover the Flyway program started in late August, when 47 elementary school teachers were trained how to use the Wildlife Area as an outdoor classroom for their students.

"The teachers are very enthusiastic about the opportunity to use this new resource," said Dorothy Petersen, a second-grade teacher at Pioneer Elementary School. She brought her students to the wetlands on Wednesday to add the hands-on experience of the place to her classroom lessons about water, wildlife and the environment.

Her students sampled the wa-

ter, planted sedges in the mud and walked the "Un-Nature Trail" during their two-hour field trip to the Wildlife Area.

Jean Rissman, a teacher at Silveville Primary School in Dixon, led the first classroom sedge planting in the area.

"The children enjoyed the mud and the critters," Rissman said, "and I believe they will remember this trip for a very long time."

Cornflower Farms donated the sprouted sedge plants that were planted by the children, and the California Department of Fish and Game coordinated the planting effort.

The Discover the Flyway program provides support for the teachers who completed the initial workshops by providing learning materials and volunteer assistance.

The Yolo Basin Foundation intends to provide mini-workshops about the wetlands for teachers, parents and volunteers interested in helping with the field trips in November. Anyone interested in volunteering, or teachers interested in visiting the wetlands, should call 758-1018.

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May 7, 1998

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to support Yolo Basin Foundation's request for funding to expand their environmental education program. Discover the Flyway has proven to be an excellent program, reaching regional school children through providing teachers with a coherent curricula and an accessible field site to take their classes to experience science first hand. We welcome the addition of the middle school audience and the new sites which will expand the experience from natural history to applied problems in agriculture and the environment.

Yolo Basin Foundation is a partner in a regional educational alliance to bring education on the environment to diverse audiences. The University of California Davis, on behalf of this alliance, is submitting a proposal to the National Science Foundation (June 1, 1998) for funding for "Learning Landscapes and Watersheds". This is a collaborative university and community informal education project specifically targeting middle school aged youth. University resources would be available to assist the development of partner's programs and to provide training for university students to implement these programs. There is an increasingly large group of science educators at the University interested in extending university resources on behalf of public education.

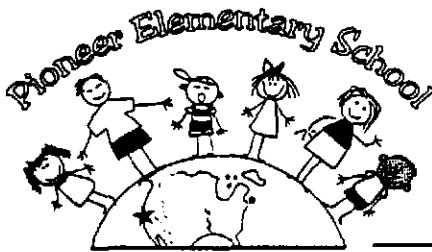
It is a pleasure to work with Yolo Basin Foundation, and I heartily recommend you fund their proposal to expand the highly successful Discover the Flyway program.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Joyce Gutstein".

Joyce Gutstein
Associate Director

Principal Investigator (NSF project)



Barbara D. Wells • Principal

5215 Hamel Street • Davis, CA 95616-4426 • 530/757-5480 • Fax 530/757-5482

May 4, 1998

Cheryl Chipman
Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area
45211 County Road 32B
Davis, CA 95616

Dear Cheryl:

This letter is in enthusiastic support for the Yolo Basin Foundations' "Discover the Flyways" environmental education program. The development of this area has notably changed our involvement and direct access to and with the environment at Pioneer Elementary School from grades 1st through 6th. This program has made the Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area an exciting, ever-changing ecological niche accessible for hands-on teaching and investigative learning.

The integration of already used programs like "Project Wild" and "Wild About the Wetlands" make the outdoor and indoor lessons developed by "Discover the Flyways" staff along with practicing teacher richer and more in depth instead of add-ons like so many recently published programs.

The inclusion of two new sites in the Yolo Basin Area focusing on water treatment/wetland restoration and the other on compatible wildlife/agricultural usage of land will work into our curriculum on land resource utilization, communities and neighborhoods, and the water cycle/weather and their impacts. We have had hundreds of students involved this year in lessons at school or at the wetlands including plantings, greeting the President, field trips and integrations with university resources.

Because this great resource is our neighbor, we feel privileged to have watched its evolution from conception to inception to implementation. We as a total school site support the expansion of this program. The fostering of lifelong learning and stewardship of our world resources are of utmost importance to our community, our region, our educational process and, ultimately, to our nation. This is truly an evolving model program.

Sincerely

Barbara Wells
Principal